

Attitudes to integration may be changing

A MAJORITY of white people in the greater Durban area support the integration of facilities, according to a survey conducted by Dr Mike Sutcliffe of the University of Natal's department of town and regional planning.

The survey, designed to provide information about people's attitudes towards regional violence, was sponsored by IDASA. This information is not yet available. Included in the questionnaire was a series of questions on integration and the results from these were startling enough to produce a separate report entitled "The integration of facilities: results and conclusions".

Amongst the results were that 67 per cent of those whites interviewed supported integration, while 62 per cent supported the repeal of the Group Areas Act, and 65 per cent supported the integration of schools.

Giving reasons for this positive response, people mentioned equal rights, inter-racial harmony and equal opportunities most frequently.

These rational reasons, which were mentioned together with others such as reduced costs and self-interest, compared interestingly with the reasons given by black respondents. Here the

matter of providing an opportunity for learning how to get along and the promotion of inter-racial understanding were mentioned most frequently.

The survey interviewed 500 people in the centre of Durban and provides an indicator of attitudes rather than claiming to represent accurately the residents of the Durban functional area.

Researcher Mike Sutcliffe concludes: "It is quite clear that, in spite of 'swart gevaar' tactics, an overwhelming majority of those respondents who expressed a firm attitude believe that facilities and areas should be integrated. And secondly, there are not major differences between race groups."

The survey identifies one area where there is disagreement over integration — the beaches. Commenting on this, Dr Sutcliffe suggests that knowledge of an already integrated facility has made people more uncertain of their opinion — 29 per cent of whites would not commit themselves. He goes on to suggest that partial integration might be part of the problem and concludes that "by opening up the whole city the (positive and negative) effects of integration (on property markets, communities facilities and the like) will be spread around" ensuring that development is more natural and produces less obvious "territorial" boundaries.

The report is available in booklet form from IDASA's office in Durban.

Paul Graham
Natal Regional Director



DAVE HARTMAN, Atrapix

DR JOHAN HEYNS . . . spyt oor apartheid maar bely dit nie as sonde nie

heid konkreet en spesifiek aan te dui en 'n beroep op die regering te doen om, byvoorbeeld, die vier apartheidswette wat die grondpilare van apartheid vorm — die Wet op Grondbesit, die Groepsgebiedewet, die Bevolkingsregistrasiewet en die Wet op Aparte Geriewe — te herroep nie. Die N.G. Kerk het wel sy kommer uitgespreek oor die voortgesette noodtoestand en die regering versoek om dit so gou as moontlik op te hef.

- Die N.G. Kerk was nie bereid om hom te verbind tot die stigting van een verenigde nie-rassige Gereformeerde Kerk nie.
- Die N.G. Kerk was nie bereid om verder te gaan as sy siening oor apartheid soos vertolk in sy beleidstuk Kerk en Samelewing nie — 'n dokument wat in die oë van die swart N.G. Kerke nie verder gaan as die hervormingsbeleid van P.W. Botha nie, en dus nie spesifiek genoeg is in die veroordeling van apartheid nie. Een afgevaardigde by Vereeniging het dit so uitgedruk: "Kerk en Samelewing is vol skuiwergate. As jy die N.G. Kerk teologies op een punt in die hoek dryf, spring hy weer gou in 'n ander hoek in."

Ons slotsom dus: Wesenlik het die wit N.G. Kerk niks toegegee nie en lê daar dus vir die swart N.G. Kerke geen ander weg oop as om so gou as moontlik een, verenigde kerk te word, om sy volle gewig in te gooi om so sterk as moontlik apartheid te bly beveg en om sy kragte saam te snoer met alle ander kerke en sekulêre organisasies wat dieselfde doel nastrewe. Die swart N.G. Kerke het lank genoeg gewag vir die wit N.G. Kerk. Die boodskap van Vereeniging is duidelik: Ons kan nie langer wag nie, ons gaan voort!

Not ALL the Forces' Favourites, please!

FORCES' Favourites stalwart Patricia Carr had to vasbyt recently when confronted during a live broadcast with a request for prominent imprisoned conscientious objector David Bruce. The veteran broadcaster very swiftly "lost" the troublesome call.

Already the recipient of the Southern Cross award for her contribution towards keeping up the morale of servicemen, one wonders what further honours await Ms Carr after this patriotic display on the hallowed SABC airwaves.

It happened like this: a young man called from Broederstroom, that notorious country hideout of "terrorists" and "subversives", and politely asked whether Ms Carr played requests because he wanted her to play Johnny Cash's song "San Quentin" for someone.

If the broadcaster realised that this 1960s hit dealt with a Californian prison, she didn't let on. She patiently explained to the caller what the

request procedure entailed — a week's written warning and so forth because she has to draw the records from the library.

Then the caller dropped the bombshell. He wanted the request for David Bruce who is in a military jail, he told Ms Carr before his airtime came to an abrupt end. Without flinching, of course, she issued her standard cool explanation, "we seem to have lost that call", and moved on to her next message.

Approached for an explanation by Democracy in Action, the broadcaster said she did not have the authority to comment on the incident but would seek such permission from her employers at Auckland Park. We haven't heard from her since.

David Bruce was jailed for six years in July last year for refusing to do military service. He is being held, among common criminals, at Pretoria Central. An appeal against the sentence is pending.